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July 12, 2004

PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney's Docket No. 2469 1002-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Matthew D. Barnhart, Stephen S. Hau, Yuri Ostrovsky and MinPont Chien

Application No.: 09/356,543

Group Art Unit: 2175

Filed: July 19, 1999

Examiner: Samuel G. Rimell

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Confirmation No.: 7963

JUL 28 2004

Title: DEVICE FOR AUTOMATING BILLING REIMBURSEMENT

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AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 24, 2004 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The undersigned thanks Examiner Rimell for a helpful telephone interview today. In that interview, Examiner Rimell agreed that the cited reference did not teach the invention as claimed in this amendment.

An extension of time to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition for Extension of Time and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently with this Amendment.

Please amend the application as follows:

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